

COURSE SYLLABUS

World Religions Basics

Our Daily Bread Christian University

Course Description

The world is getting smaller all the time. People are moving into your neighborhood that have different religious beliefs than you do. How can you be respectful and genuine with them if you don't really know and understand what they believe? The *World Religions Basics* course will provide you with an overview of the religious faiths and practices of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and Judaism, comparing their beliefs about God, creation, sacred scriptures, and salvation.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Define the term “religion.”
2. Explain why a familiarity with the five most influential religions is foundational to begin exploring other belief systems.
3. Explain why studying other world religions is important and explore how other religions have affected you and your community.
4. Understand some of the problems connected with the naturalistic view of God and creation.
5. Explain how Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity view God and creation.
6. Explain the central teachings of the sacred texts for Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.
7. Explain the views of salvation for Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.

Course Methods

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage the students in learning and processing information, interacting with other students (when possible), and applying the learning to their lives.

Lesson Structure

Each lesson is organized in a similar structure. It is important that students review the lesson objectives for each lesson so they will be familiar with the learning outcomes for that lesson. The lesson lectures are available in video or text format. Lessons are structured as follows:

- **Lesson Objectives:** The Lesson Objectives describe the learning outcomes students should achieve by the end of each lesson.

- **Lecture:** Each lesson in this course includes a lecture of approximately 10-25 minutes in length. These instructional lectures can be watched as many times as needed. The same content is available in the lesson transcript (PDF), for students who can benefit from this alternative medium.
- **Quizzes:** Short, interactive quizzes within each video lesson help students test their knowledge along the way.

Course Requirements

Course requirements will be provided by the student's course facilitator, instructor, or leader. For students taking this course independent of a facilitator, this is a self-study course and there are no requirements; students may do as much, or as little work in the course as they like.